

July 29, 2011

Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Commissioners:

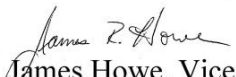
Twenty-nine years before Alexander Graham Bell made the first telephone call, the first milling company was established in Frankenmuth, Michigan. Today, the Star of the West Milling Company is the nation's 17th largest miller. We have grown and remained successful because of our commitment to quality and our willingness to adapt to new technology. We support the proposed merger of T-Mobile and AT&T because, in the same way the first telephone call in 1876 revolutionized modern society, wireless communication is revolutionizing the way we communicate in the 21st century.

Unfortunately, people in small communities like ours don't have the same ability to use wireless communication as people in more urban areas do. This merger could change that due to AT&T's infrastructure investment of more than \$8 billion to deploy its LTE wireless network reaching nearly all Americans should it be approved. Government has talked about creating a true, universal broadband network but has not been able to get the effort off the ground. This merger would let the private sector lay the groundwork while we all would reap its benefits.

Consumers would be the biggest beneficiaries. This merger would make the competitive wireless industry even more competitive, prompting greater innovation in the industry. As well, T-Mobile customers would be able to keep their plans, phones and pricing following the merger with AT&T.

When the Hubinger brothers first established the Star of the West Milling Company, they changed this community forever. The same could be said for Alexander Graham Bell, whose first phone call changed the way we communicate. Today, new advances in wireless are changing how we live. It is my hope that the good people of Frankenmuth—and other small towns—will get the same access to LTE wireless broadband as more populous areas of the country. Please approve the AT&T / T-Mobile merger to ensure this mobile broadband expansion.

Sincerely,


James Howe, Vice President
Star of the West Milling Company

Frankenmuth, Michigan 48734

Cc:
Senator Carl Levin, Senator Debbie Stabenow